



# Australian Bureau of Statistics

## 1362.7 - Regional Statistics, Northern Territory, Nov 2009

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## Summary

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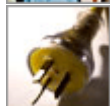
#### Geography Used

Includes: Geography Used in this Publication



#### Population

Includes: Northern Territory Population Growth ~ Population Estimates ~ Births and Deaths ~ Population Characteristics



#### Environment

Includes: Northern Territory Climate ~ Environmental Views and Behaviour of Territorians ~ Energy Use and Production

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#### FORTHCOMING ISSUES

#### ISSUE (QUARTER)

March 2010

#### Release Date

12 March 2010

#### INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

## Geography Used



#### GEOGRAPHY USED

#### GEOGRAPHY USED IN THIS PUBLICATION

*Regional Statistics, Northern Territory* (cat. no. 1362.7) presents data using two classification structures from the *Australian Standard Geographical Classification* (ASGC) (cat. no. 1216.0) — the Main Structure and the Local Government Area Structure.

### **ASGC Main Structure**

In the Northern Territory (NT) the Main Structure comprises two Statistical Divisions (SDs), Darwin SD and Northern Territory - Bal. These in turn are made up of a number of Statistical Subdivisions (SSDs), which are further broken down into Statistical Local Areas (SLAs). The number of SSDs and SLAs depends on the particular edition being used. Maps of these areas are available from the relevant edition of the ASGC.

### **ASGC Local Government Area Structure**

The Local Government Area (LGA) Structure covers legally designated areas over which incorporated local governing bodies have responsibility. Maps of these areas are available from the NT Government's Local Government Boundaries webpage. The SLAs which cover unincorporated areas (excluding Off-Shore Areas and Migratory) in the NT are:

- East Arm which is on Darwin Rates Act Area land;
- Finnis-Mary;
- Alyangula and Nhulunbuy where both townships come under a Special Purpose Lease; and
- Yulara which is owned by private interests.

## **Population**



### **POPULATION**

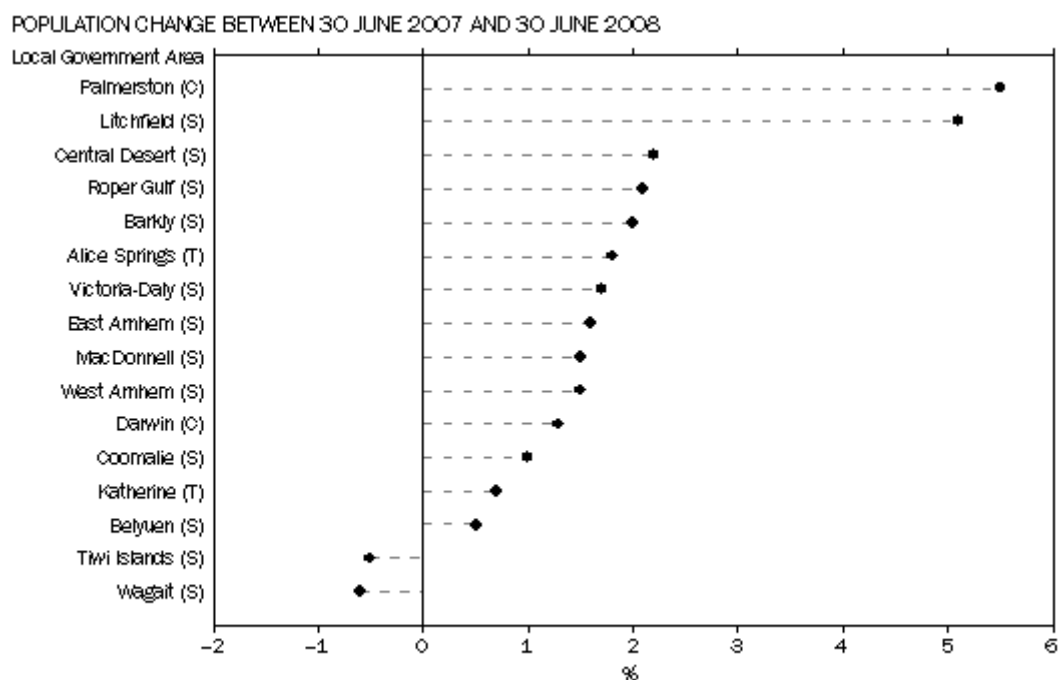
#### **Northern Territory Population Growth, Population Estimates, Births and Deaths, Population Characteristics**

#### **NORTHERN TERRITORY POPULATION GROWTH**

The estimated resident population of the Northern Territory (NT) at 30 June 2008 was 219,800 people. During the five years to 30 June 2008 the NT had the third fastest growing population of all the states and territories after Queensland and Western Australia with an average annual growth rate of 1.9%. During 2007–08 the NT experienced its largest financial year increase in population since 1996–97 (up 2.3% or about 5,000 people).

During 2007–08 Darwin SD grew faster than Northern Territory - Bal SD with a growth rate of 2.8% compared to 1.7%. In 2008, as a result of the NT Government's Local Government Reform, eight new Local Government Areas (LGAs) (based on the new shires) and corresponding Statistical Local Areas for the NT were introduced into the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC). Two of the five fastest growing LGAs during 2007–08 were within Darwin SD (Palmerston (C) up 5.5%, Litchfield (S) up 5.1%) and the remaining three were Central Desert (S) (up 2.2%), Roper Gulf (S) (up 2.1%), and

Barkly (S) (up 2.0%).



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## POPULATION ESTIMATES

### Description of data available

### Link to data

Estimated Resident Population, by region, 2001 to 2008 (ASGC 2008)	<a href="#">Regional Population Growth, Australia, 2007–08</a> (cat. no. 3218.0)
Estimated Resident Population, by age, sex and region, 30 June 2003 and 30 June 2008 (ASGC 2008)	<a href="#">Population by Age and Sex, Regions of Australia, 2008</a> (cat. no. 3235.0)
Experimental estimates of the Indigenous population by age, sex and state/territory, 1986 to 2006	<a href="#">Experimental Estimates and Projections, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 1991 to 2021</a> (cat. no. 3238.0)
Experimental projections of the Indigenous population, by state/territory, 2006 to 2021	<a href="#">Experimental Estimates and Projections, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 1991 to 2021</a> (cat. no. 3238.0)

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## BIRTHS AND DEATHS

### Description of data available

### Link to data

Births and deaths, by Statistical Subdivision, NT, 2003 to 2007 (ASGC 2007)	<a href="#">Births and Deaths by Statistical Subdivision, NT, 2003 to 2007</a>
Births, by region, various years	<a href="#">Births, Australia, 2007</a> (cat. no. 3301.0)
Deaths, by region, various years	<a href="#">Deaths, Australia, 2007</a> (cat. no. 3302.0)
Indigenous births and deaths, by Statistical Subdivision, NT, 2007 (ASGC 2007)	<a href="#">Indigenous Births and Deaths by Statistical Subdivision, NT, 2007</a>
Indigenous births, by state/territory, 2007	<a href="#">Births, Australia, 2007</a> (cat. no. 3301.0)

Deaths by Indigenous status, by state/territory, 1991 to 2007 [Deaths, Australia, 2007](#) (cat. no. 3302.0)

Median age at death, by Indigenous status, selected states/territories, 1991 to 2007 [Deaths, Australia, 2007](#) (cat. no. 3302.0)

Infant mortality rates, by Indigenous status, selected states/territories, 1991 to 2007 [Deaths, Australia, 2007](#) (cat. no. 3302.0)

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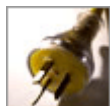
## POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

Description of data available	Link to data
Country of birth, by Statistical Subdivision, NT, 2006	<a href="#"><u>Regional Statistics, Northern Territory, 2008 Reissue</u></a> (cat. no. 1362.7)
Language spoken at home, by Statistical Subdivision, NT, 2006	<a href="#"><u>Regional Statistics, Northern Territory, 2008 Reissue</u></a> (cat. no. 1362.7)
Household composition, by Statistical Subdivision, NT, 2006	<a href="#"><u>Regional Statistics, Northern Territory, 2008 Reissue</u></a> (cat. no. 1362.7)
Family type, by Statistical Subdivision, NT, 2006	<a href="#"><u>Regional Statistics, Northern Territory, 2008 Reissue</u></a> (cat. no. 1362.7)
Number of motor vehicles, by occupied private dwellings, NT, 2006	<a href="#"><u>2006 Census Tables</u></a> (cat. no. 2068.0)

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## Environment



### ENVIRONMENT

[Northern Territory Climate, Environmental Views and Behaviour of Territorians, Energy Use and Production](#)

### NORTHERN TERRITORY CLIMATE

The Northern Territory (NT) comprises a land area of 1,346,200 km<sup>2</sup>, and is the third largest of the states and territories in area after Western Australia and Queensland. The NT sits within two climatic zones: the wet/dry tropics in the north; and the semi-arid to arid areas in the south. In the north the 'wet season' runs from 1 October to 30 April, and the 'dry season' runs from 1 May to 30 September. Relative humidity in the north is highest during the wet season and lowest at the height of the dry season. In contrast, the southern part of the NT is relatively dry for most of the year, with cool winters and hot summers. Information on the NT climate by location can be found on the Bureau of Meteorology's Northern Territory climate statistics webpage for variables such as temperature, relative humidity, wind speed and rainfall.

### ENVIRONMENTAL VIEWS AND BEHAVIOUR OF TERRITORIANS

The environmental views and behaviour of Territorians is discussed in the feature article "Territorians Buck the Trend on Green Issues" and in the article "NT Keeps Cool" in *Inform NT*, Mar 2009 (cat. no. 1308.7).

Description of data available	Link to data
Environmental behaviour and practices in households by state/territory, March 2008	<i>Environmental Issues: Energy Use and Conservation</i> , Mar 2008 (cat. no. 4602.0.55.001)
Environmental views and behaviour by state/territory, 2007–08	<i>Environmental Views and Behaviour, 2007–08 (2nd issue)</i> (cat. no. 4626.0.55.001)

## ENERGY USE AND PRODUCTION

Description of data available	Link to data
Electricity, use and generation, NT, 2006–07 to 2008–09	Electricity, Use and Generation, NT, 2006–07 to 2008–09
Water and waste water, use and production, NT, 2002–03 to 2008–09	Water and Waste Water, Use and Production, NT, 2002–03 to 2008–09
Other power and water statistics including environment and water quality reports and reports on Indigenous essential services	Power and Water Corporation publications webpage

## View latest issue

View the latest issue of Regional Statistics, Northern Territory (cat. no. 1362.7).

## About this Release

Regional Statistics, Northern Territory, presents a wide range of statistics about the Northern Territory and its regions. Information is presented by topic-based chapters, with most chapters containing a mix of Excel spreadsheets and links to ABS and non-ABS statistics to provide an indication of recent movements in key economic, social and environmental data. The links also enable readers to explore particular topics in more detail. Topics are updated annually on a rolling basis as follows: November issue - Population, Environment and Geography; March issue - Health & Safety and Employment, Education & Training; May issue - Economic Activity; August issue - Tourism and Primary Production. Each issue is supported by a feature article and Explanatory Notes.

## Territorians Buck the Trend on Green Issues (Feature Article)



## FEATURE ARTICLE

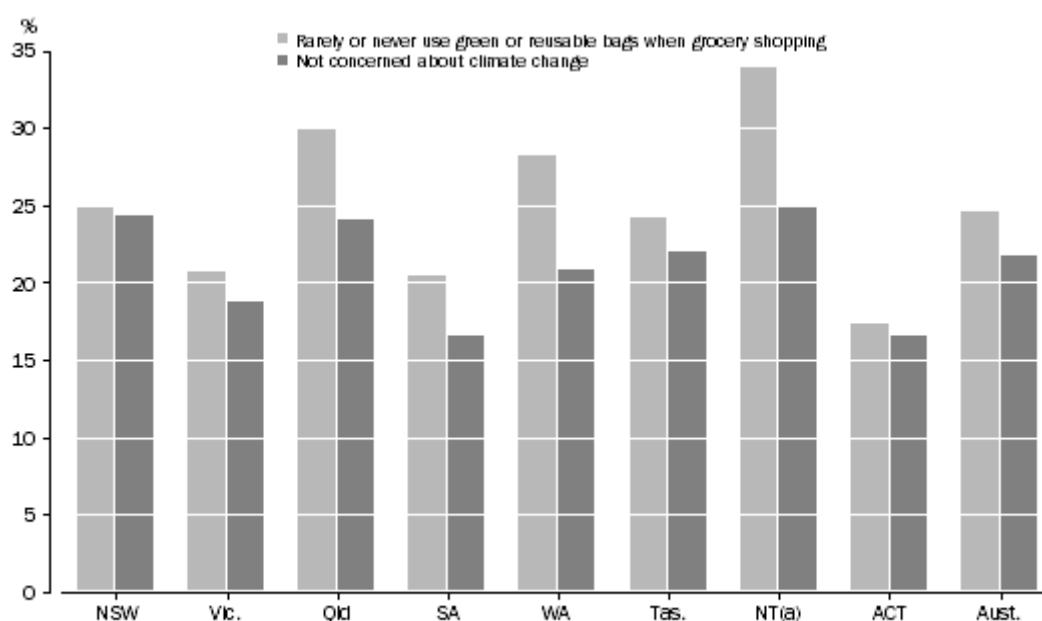
### TERRITORIANS BUCK THE TREND ON GREEN ISSUES

The environment and its close association with energy and water conservation are becoming increasingly important to Australians. Drought and water restrictions, greenhouse gas emissions and the rising cost of fuel and power have firmly placed environmental issues at the front of social and economic debate in Australia. While Territorians seem isolated from some of the issues affecting the rest of Australia, such as the southern water restrictions, government policies and education campaigns are increasingly encouraging all Australians to reduce the amount of resources they use. Understanding how Territorians respond to these changes is essential for assessing the impact of these policies and campaigns.

#### Environmental views and behaviour

In 2007–08 the ABS conducted a national survey of people aged 18 years and over to obtain a better understanding of the factors that influence people to participate in environmental activities and energy and water conservation practices. The results, published in *Environmental Views and Behaviour, 2007–08 (2nd issue)* (cat. no. 4626.0.55.001), showed that Territorians were less concerned about many issues relating to the environment than people elsewhere in Australia. Please note that for the purposes of this survey, results for the NT exclude persons living in very remote areas, which account for about 23% of the population in the NT. For example, while 69% of Territorians expressed concern about climate change, this was the lowest level of concern reported for any state or territory (closely followed by New South Wales (70%) and Queensland (72%)) and lower than the national average of approximately 74%. And while a large proportion of Australians reported using green or reusable shopping bags when grocery shopping all or most of the time (41%), Territorians were the most likely to report rarely or never using them (34% compared with 25% nationally).

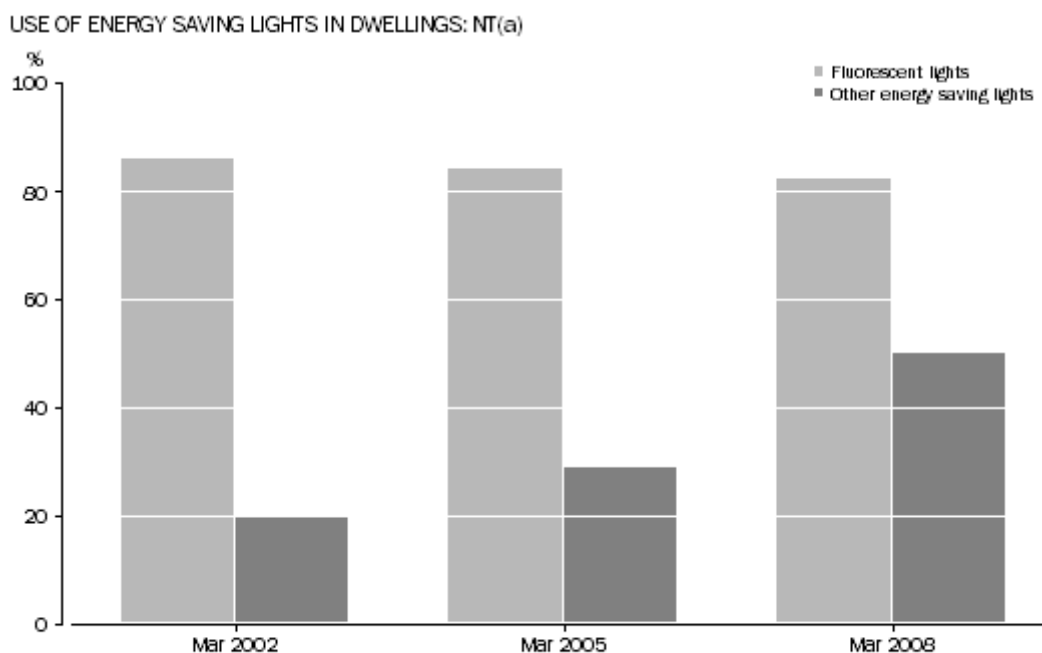
BEHAVIOUR AND ATTITUDE TOWARDS ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES—2007–08



(a) Excludes persons living in very remote areas of the Northern Territory.

Source: *Environmental Views and Behaviour, 2007–08 (2nd issue)* (cat. no. 4626.0.55.001)

Additional information about household practices in relation to domestic energy use can be found in *Environmental Issues: Energy Use and Conservation, Mar 2008* (cat. no. 4602.0.55.001). Please note that results for the NT exclude dwellings in very remote areas. Just over half of Territory dwellings had solar hot water systems, the highest proportion in Australia (54% compared with 7% nationally). The NT also recorded the highest proportion of dwellings using fluorescent lighting (82% compared with 58% nationally). In contrast, dwellings in the NT and Tasmania were least likely to use other types of energy saving lighting (50% compared with 59% nationally), but uptake in the NT has more than doubled in the six years to 2008.



(a) Excludes dwellings in very remote areas of the Northern Territory.

Source: *Environmental Issues: Energy Use and Conservation, Mar 2008* (cat. no. 4602.0.55.001)

The NT recorded the highest proportion of households with two or more fridges (44% compared with 34% nationally), but had the lowest proportion of households with a main fridge aged 10 or more years (17% compared with 30% nationally).

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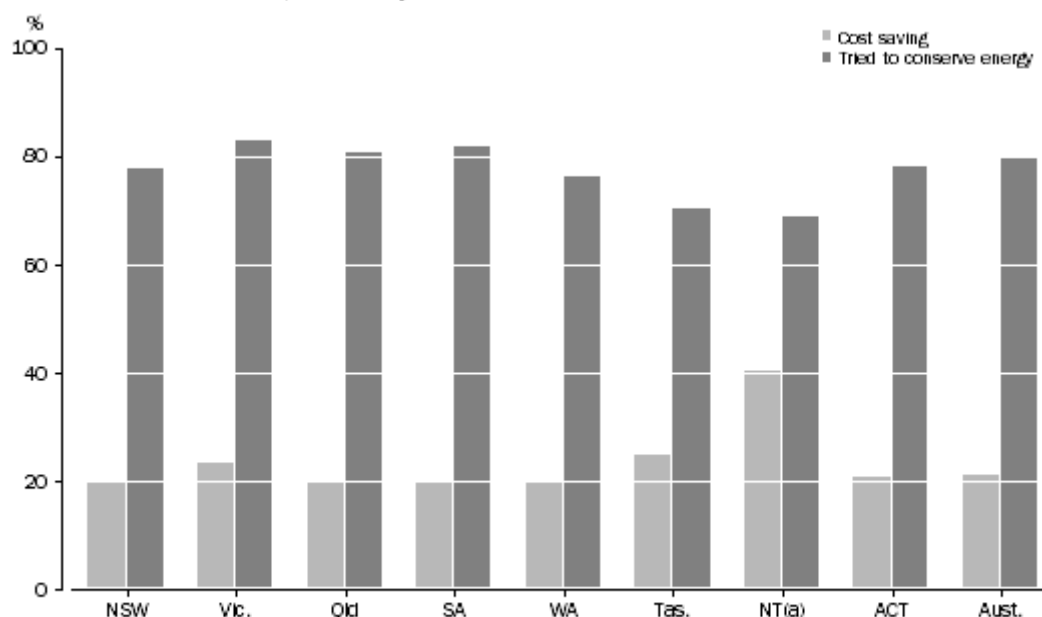
## Electricity usage

*Power and Water Corporation* is the sole provider of electricity in the NT. During the two years from 2006–07 to 2008–09, the number of electricity services to customers increased by an average of 0.4% per year (note that an electricity service to a customer may be to an individual, a household, a business, or many metered services that may be the responsibility of a single corporation). Average usage per customer increased by an average of 4% over the same period.

When Territorians (excluding persons living in very remote areas) were asked whether they took steps to limit their personal electricity use, 19% stated they did not (*Environmental Views and Behaviour, 2007–08 (2nd issue)* (cat. no. 4626.0.55.001)). This was the highest proportion of any state or territory (the next highest was Tasmania at 15%), and higher than the Australian average of 12%. When asked whether their personal electricity use had increased, decreased or stayed the same in the last 12 months, Territorians were the least likely to report their personal electricity usage had decreased (37% compared with 47% nationally), and were the most likely to report an increase in personal electricity

usage (11% compared with 7% nationally). Further, Territorians were most likely to cite cost saving as a reason for decreasing their electricity use (40%, almost double the national average of 21%) and least likely to cite conserving energy as a reason (69% compared with 80% nationally).

PERSONAL ELECTRICITY USE, Reason why use decreased—2007–08



(a) Excludes persons living in very remote areas of the Northern Territory.

Source: *Environmental Views and Behaviour, 2007–08 (2nd issue)* (cat. no. 4626.0.55.001)

## Earth Hour

At 8pm on 29 March 2008 an estimated 50 million people around the world turned off non-essential lighting to raise awareness of the need to take action on climate change. When Territorians joined other Australians in switching off lights for Earth Hour, Power and Water Corporation monitored the result. Between 8pm and 9pm the Territory's electricity consumption dropped by 5.8MWh or 3.5 tonnes of greenhouse emissions. This is equal to around 6,000 cars being off the road for that hour.

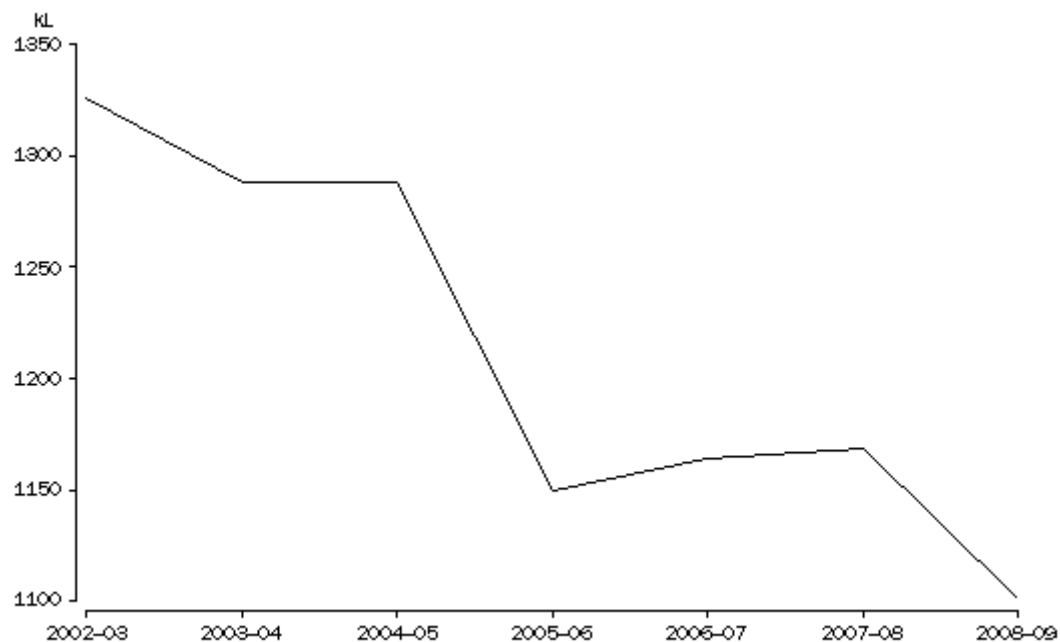
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## Water usage

Power and Water Corporation is the sole provider of water in the NT. During the six years from 2002-03 to 2008-09, the number of customers purchasing water from Power and Water Corporation increased by an average of 4% per year, while average water usage per customer declined by 17%, from 1,326kL per year (or 3,634 litres per day) in 2002–03 to 1,101kL per year (or 3,017 litres per day) in 2008–09. As with electricity, there is some complexity in interpreting trends in the actual consumption and usage of water, since one customer is the equivalent of one water meter and so includes both residential and commercial users.



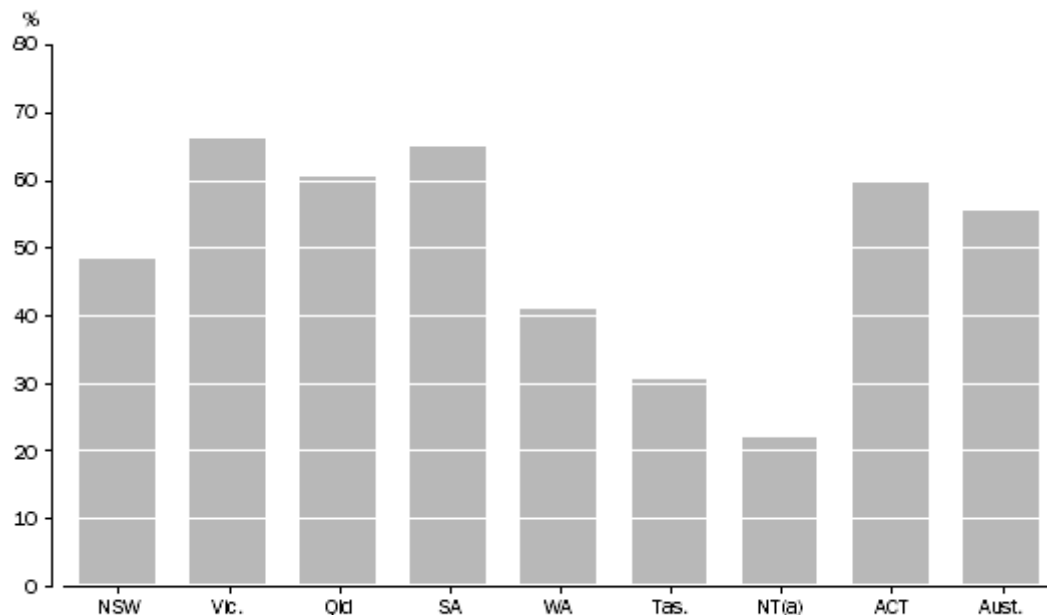
AVERAGE WATER USAGE PER CUSTOMER: NT



Source: Power and Water Corporation

When asked whether their personal water use had increased, decreased or stayed the same in the last 12 months, Territorians (excluding persons living in very remote areas) were the least likely to report their personal water usage had decreased (22% compared with 55% nationally), and the most likely to report an increase in personal water usage (11% compared with 4% nationally) (*Environmental Views and Behaviour, 2007-08 (2nd issue)* (cat. no. 4626.0.55.001)).

PERSONS WHO DECREASED THEIR WATER USAGE OVER THE PAST 12 MONTHS—2007-08



(a) Excludes persons living in very remote areas of the Northern Territory.

Source: *Environmental Views and Behaviour, 2007-08 (2nd issue)* (cat. no. 4626.0.55.001)

## Further information

For more information on environmental issues produced by the ABS visit the [Environment Themes](#) page for a complete list of publications on environment and energy statistics.

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# Explanatory Notes

## Explanatory Notes

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

Regional Statistics, Northern Territory, contains data on the Northern Territory (NT) from both the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and non-ABS sources. These sources are referenced within the publication.

The Explanatory Notes in this publication are not in the form found in other ABS publications. For further information about the data in this publication, please refer to the Explanatory Notes tab of the relevant ABS publication, and to the Glossary for non-ABS data.

## Glossary

### GLOSSARY

**Power and Water customer** - For the purposes of the statistical information that Power and Water Corporation collects, the term 'customer' applies to the number of services. For electricity, one customer is the equivalent of one installation (a property where one or more electricity meters have been installed). For water, one customer is the equivalent of one water meter (the device that records consumption). Customers include residential, commercial and government users.

## Abbreviations

### ABBREVIATIONS

The following symbols and abbreviations are used in this publication:

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ACT	Australian Capital Territory
ASGC	Australian Standard Geographical Classification
Aust.	Australia
Bal	Balance
C	City
GWh	gigawatt hour
kL	kilolitre
km <sup>2</sup>	square kilometre
kWh	kilowatt hour
LGA	Local Government Area
ML	megalitre
MW	megawatt
MWh	megawatt hour
no.	number

NSW	New South Wales
NT	Northern Territory
Qld	Queensland
S	Shire
SA	South Australia
SD	Statistical Division
SLA	Statistical Local Area
SSD	Statistical Subdivision
T	Town
Tas.	Tasmania
Vic.	Victoria
WA	Western Australia

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